

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

The Examiner has requested an election among the species illustrated in Figs. 1A-1C; Fig. 2A; Fig. 2B; Fig. 2C; Fig. 3; and Fig. 4.

Applicants' Response

**A. In the Specification**

Applicants have amended paragraphs [0041] to correct a typographical error, which had caused "µm" (to indicate microns) to be incorrectly typed as "mm". The disclosure of pore dimensions in µm is inherent in the specification. For example, paragraph [0014] explains: "Red blood cells have an approximate diameter of 5 microns. Dangerous emboli, meanwhile, are commonly defined as particles greater than about 60-100 microns in diameter." Therefore, any filtering material inherently has pores that will capture micron-sized particles.

**C. In the Claims**

Applicants elect the species of Figs. 1A-1C and respectfully requests the examination of claims 11-13; 15; 19-23; and 31-32, which are readable on the elected species. Claims 14; 16-18; and 24-30 are being withdrawn from consideration in this application at this time.

Applicants expressly reserve the right to request a rejoinder of the withdrawn claims upon the allowance of the elected claims.

Applicants also have amended dependent claims 5, 6, and 7 to replace "mm" with "μm", in order to correct a typographical error. As explained in the previous section, the disclosure of pore dimensions in μm is inherent in the specification. For example, paragraph [0014] explains: "Red blood cells have an approximate diameter of 5 microns. Dangerous emboli, meanwhile, are commonly defined as particles greater than about 60-100 microns in diameter." Therefore, any filtering material inherently have pores that will capture micron-sized particles.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendment and comments, an early and favorable response is earnestly requested.

Dated: December 21, 2006      Respectfully submitted,

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